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drought conditions in eleven counties, it is important to note that currently the entire state is in "extreme" drought conditions," Commissioner Peterson added.

The UDAF is working with various agriculture-oriented groups and agencies such as: The Utah Cattlemen's Association, Utah Wool Growers Association, Utah Farm Bureau Federation, Utah Farmer's Union, Utah State University Extension Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm

Service Agency, Intermountain Farmers Association, and other members of the Utah Feed Dealers and Manufacturers Assn.

The high-protein milk powder requires special feeding instructions, since the product should not be fed directly to livestock. USU livestock nutrition specialists are distributing feeding information about the various safe feeding options for livestock owners. For additional feeding options, contact your county USU extension agent.

The USDA has placed a conservative estimated value of the product at \$80 per ton. Utah's allotment of 8.9 million pounds is valued at \$365,000.

USDA will partner with state and tribal governments to move the non-fat dry milk to eligible producers. Approximately 100 counties in nine states currently meet the initial eligibility criteria. The states with eligible counties are: Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. The USDA can increase Utah's allotment of NDM if and when drought conditions in Utah warrant.

The NDM program does not affect livestock owners' eligibility to participate in other USDA sponsored drought relief programs. The NDM being offered to ranchers is a portion of the one billion pounds of powdered milk currently being stored by the U.S. government. The milk was originally intended for human consumption, but has exceeded its expiration date. The distribution of the milk accomplishes two goals; It reduces the cost the USDA pays for storing the milk, and it helps livestock owners improve the quality of their feed diet during severe drought condition.

For more information visit: www.ag.utah.gov/

EMPLOYEE NEWS

New Employees

Danny Anderson is Wildlife Services' new **Predator Control Officer**. Previously he was a supervisor at the Sorenson Ranch. **Mike Greenwell** is Wildlife Services' new **Field Tech**. Previously Mike was a truck driver for Geneva Rock Company. **Karl Hartman** is Regulatory Services' new **Environmental Health Scientist/Compliance Officer**. He comes to the department from the Utah County Health Department where he was an Environmental Health Scientist. **Heather Nielsen** is Animal Industry's new **Secretary**. She comes to the department from Ingeo Systems, where she was an Executive Assistant. **Sherrle Jorgensen** is Plant Industry's new **Secretary**. Previously she was a Secretary at the State Health Department.



UDAF Internet website offers in-depth information on the NDM drought assistance program.
www.ag.utah.gov/

MAY 2003

UDAF To Distribute 8.9 Million Pounds Of Non-Fat Dry Milk To Drought Stricken Ranchers

May 5 Signup Deadline

Salt Lake City – The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) will distribute approximately 8.9 million pounds of non-fat dry milk to eligible Utah beef cattle, buffalo, sheep and goat owners. The Nonfat Dry Milk (NDM) being distributed as part of a nine-state U.S. Department of Agriculture drought assistance program announced April 8, 2003 by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Ann M. Veneman.

The milk is an excellent feed additive for cattle and other livestock.

“This is a welcomed program that will help get needed nutrition to the drought-weakened livestock herds in Utah,” said Cary G. Peterson, Utah Commissioner of Agriculture and Food. “We expect to start distributing the milk as soon as we can formulate a fair and economical plan,” he added.

The UDAF will offer the dry milk to eligible livestock owners in all 29 Utah counties. The allocation will be pro-rated based on the number of livestock owners who sign up for the program.

“I have advised Governor Leavitt, and he is in agreement, that drought conditions merit extending the milk allotments to all qualified Utah ranchers,” said Commissioner Peterson

The UDAF is currently working on the logistics of receiving and distributing the large amount of dry powdered milk. It is estimated that the nearly nine million pounds of milk will require 208 semi-truck loads, each weighing 43,000 pounds. The milk is shipped in 55-pound sacks that are specially wrapped to seal out moisture.

Ranchers interested in receiving the milk would be required to verify their herd size and be able to promptly retrieve the milk from centrally located distribution points.

While the dry powdered milk is offered free to livestock owners, there could be costs to recipients associated with the storage, loading and local transportation of the milk. The USDA will pay for the transportation of the milk to Utah.

Eligible livestock owners will soon receive an application packet in the mail. Ranchers who are interested in receiving the milk should immediately return the application to the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food by either mail or by fax. Based on the interest level, the UDAF will establish distribution points throughout Utah.

The NDM application steps: Complete the self-certification document and return to the UDAF by May 5, 2003. Identify number of beef cattle, sheep, goats, or buffalo that were owned by applicant as of January 1, 2003. Sign the liability waiver. Questions about the program can be directed to your local USU extension service office or the UDAF at: (801) 538-7104.

The U.S. Drought Monitor will be used to determine which counties are eligible, and eligibility will be re-evaluated every 30 days to ensure the program is targeted to producers in greatest need.

Eligible livestock are foundation herds (breeding and replacement stock, no dairy cows) of beef cattle, buffalo, sheep, and goats. The allocation of NDM for a county will be based on a renewable, if applicable, 30-day supply, based upon two pounds of NDM per day for beef cattle and buffalo, and one-half pound of NDM per day for sheep and goats. Individual allotments may vary based on pro-rated distribution.

“While the USDA has allocated the surplus milk to Utah based on “exceptional”

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USDA Surplus Non-Fat Dried Milk for Livestock Dale ZoBell, PhD Extension Beef Specialist, Utah State University

Feeding Information

Description:

Nonfat dried milk (NDM) is a dairy product derived from the drying of defatted milk with only the cream and water removed. It still contains the calcium and other minerals, vitamins, natural sugars and high quality protein as liquid milk. Primarily used as a replacement for fluid skim milk in cooking and baking.

Physical Characteristics: Texture: Free flowing powder.

Packaging: Fifty-five pound bags triple wrapped.

Storage: Product should be stored in a dry, cool area at a temperature below 80° F and relative humidity below 65%.

Typical Nutrient Analysis:

Crude Protein.....	36.0%	Calcium.....	1.3%
Crude Fat.....	1.0%	Phosphorus.....	2.6%
Crude Fiber.....	0.0%	Lactose.....	52.0%
Moisture.....	4.5%	TDN	93.0%

Usage and Cautions:

This USDA NDM product is intended to be fed as a high quality protein supplement in drought affected grazing areas for the categories of livestock listed below. Precautions are advised. The recommended daily rates should be followed and NOT exceeded as NDM contains rapidly fermentable sugar and may cause illness, such as acidosis. Nonfat dried milk should not be fed free-choice but must be mixed with other available feedstuffs. Steps should be taken to help insure even distribution between animals.

Beef Cattle and Bison: 2.0 pounds per animal per day maximum. Sheep and Goats: 0.50 pounds per animal per day maximum

Nonfat dried milk could be used as a protein source in cubes, pellets or tubs. Consult with your feed company nutritionist or Utah State University County Extension office about these and other options.

For more information on livestock nutrition contact your USU county extension agent.

For more information on the surplus NDM program contact the public information officer at the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food at 801-538-7104, or Kyle Stephens at (801) 538-7102.

Dry Milk Livestock Assistance

